Out-break of Plague in the Alleppey Town.

164. ✻MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): With reference to the out-break of plague in the Alleppey Town, will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of attacks ;

(*b*) the number of deaths ;

(*c*) the date and month of the year in which it began in the town ;

(*d*) the number of weekly attacks from its commencement ;

(*e*) the weekly death rate ;

(*f*) the special arrangements made by—

(i) the Public Health Department ;

(ii) the Medical Department ; and

(iii) the Municipal Council ;

(*g*) how far the epidemic has been brought under control and

(*h*) the loss incurred by the inhabitants of the town owing to preventive measures, such as the destruction of houses, shops, etc., and how far the Government have compensated or intend compensating for such loss ?

RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Twenty-five.

(*b*) Twenty-two.

(*c*) 23rd Edavam 1111

(*d*) and (*e*) :

Week.	*Attacks.*	*Deaths.*
1st week ending with 31-10-1111 ...	13	6
2nd week ending with 7-11-1111 ...	6	9
3rd week ending with 14-11-1111 ...	5	5
4th week ending with 21-11-1111 ...	Nil.	1
5th week ending with 28-11-1111 ...	Nil.	Nil.
6th week ending with 3-12-1111 ...	Nil.	Nil.
7th week ending with 10-12-1111 ...	1	1

(*f*) (i) Officers of the Public Health Department proceeded to Alleppey as soon as information about the occurrence of plague was received and concerted the necessary preventive measures. A Special Officer and other staff required were appointed for carrying on preventive measures. A field laboratory and observation stations were also opened.

(ii) The staff and equipments for the observation stations and for inoculation work were arranged for by the Medical Department. the staff of the District Hospital, Alleppey, assisting in inoculation work.

(iii) The Municipal Council appointed the necessary additional staff and made the required arrangements for the treatment and care of the plague patients. The Health Officer, the Sanitary Inspector and the menial staff of the Municipality were placed under the

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control of the Plague Special Officer for work connected with plague preventive measures.

(*g*) The epidemic has almost subsided now. Except for one case of death from plague at Alleppey on the 4th Karkatakam 1111 and another on 3rd Karkatakam 1111 at Paravoor near Alleppey, there has been no case of human plague after the 11th Mithunam 1111. Stray cases of rat plague, however, continue to occur in a small area, *viz.*, the Puthenangadi and Mullakkal Wards of the town.

(*h*) The value of the thatched huts and sheds destroyed in connection with preventive measures has been estimated at Rs. 2,407. The question of the payment of compensation to the owners of the sheds and huts is under consideration.

Motor vehicle-tax in Municipalities.

165. *MR. M. K. JANARDANA KAMATH (*Commerce and Industry, North*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware of the fact that heavy arrears of motor vehicles-tax remain to be collected in almost all the Municipalities in Travancore;

(*b*) whether any Municipalities have drawn the attention of the Government to the several practical difficulties in realising the motor vehicles-tax;

(*c*) whether any Municipalities have suggested to the Government that the production of a certificate from Municipalities within whose limits the motor vehicles ply, that all taxes in respect of such vehicles have been paid should be made a condition precedent to the renewal of "G" permits of such vehicles;

(*d*) whether the Government have published, in the Gazette, a notification inviting objections, if any, to the carrying out of the proposal contained in part (*c*) above;

(*e*) whether the Government have taken further steps subsequent to the said notification in the Gazette;

(*f*) if the answer to part (*e*) is in the affirmative, what steps have been taken; and

(*g*) whether the Government are aware of the fact that, in the All-Travancore Municipal Conference, a resolution has been passed to the effect that the Government should take immediate steps to minimise the practical difficulties of the Municipalities in realising the motor vehicles-tax, and to facilitate collection of such tax?

RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*), (*b*), (*c*), (*d*) and (*e*) Yes.

(*f*) The proposal is under reference to Municipal Councils.

(*g*) Yes.

Municipal Office, Padmanabhapuram.

166. *MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Municipal Office, Padmanabhapuram, is housed in a rented building or in a building of its own;

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